

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended): A breeding method of lipid producing fungi that belong to genus *Mortierella*,

said method comprising an expression suppressing step of suppressing expression of a specific gene lipid metabolism gene that encodes an enzyme selected from the group consisting of: GLELO, MAELO, $\Delta 5$ fatty acid desaturase, $\Delta 6$ fatty acid desaturase, and $\Delta 12$ fatty acid desaturase in the lipid producing fungi, wherein said expression suppressing step includes an RNAi step of suppressing expression of the specific lipid metabolism gene by an RNAi method or a co-suppression step of suppressing expression of the specific lipid metabolism gene by a co-suppression method.

Claim 2. (Canceled).

Claim 3. (Currently Amended): [[A]] The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said RNAi step includes a transformation step of introducing a recombinant expression vector into the lipid producing fungi, wherein the recombinant expression vector causes expression of double stranded RNA corresponding to all of or part of a nucleotide sequence of the specific lipid metabolism gene.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended 1): [[A]] The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein said RNAi step further includes an expression vector constructing step of constructing the recombinant expression vector.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended): [[A]] The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein the transformation step is carried out by an electroporation method or a particle delivery method.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended): [[A]] The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the lipid producing fungi are *Mortierella alpina*.

Claims 7-15. (Canceled).